

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 were subject to a Restriction/Election Requirement and also to a Species Election Requirement.

In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement, applicants elected the claims of Group I (claims 1 through 29). Additionally, in response to the Species Election Requirement presented with respect to claims 1 through 29, Applicants elected as the environmental stimulus: cardiac surgery; as the disorder: pulmonary hypertension; and as the nitric oxide precursor: citrulline. Applicants further indicated that claims 1-29 were believed to read on the elected species.

In an Office Communication dated June 15, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "the Patent Office") asserted that applicants' Restriction/Election Requirement response was incomplete because not all of claims 1-29 read on the elected species.

Applicants respectfully submit that given applicants' elections and the determination by the Patent Office that claims 1 and 25 are generic, claims 1-10, 18-23, and 25-34 are believed to read on the elected species.

CONCLUSIONS

Should there be any minor issues outstanding in this matter, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney. Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

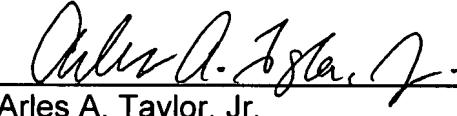
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account Number **50-0426**.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 2, 2007

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